

EAST PROVIDENCE SCHOOL DEPARTMENT

East Providence School Committee

East Providence City Hall - Council Chamber

145 Taunton Avenue

East Providence, Rhode Island 02914

November 10, 2015

Open Session

Mr. Tsonos, Chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

Members present: Jessica Beauchaine, Nathan Cahoon, Anthony Ferreira, Joel Monteiro, Charles Tsonos. Also present: Kim Mercer, Superintendent of Schools, Robert Silva, Esq. and Andrew Thomas, Esq.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and a Moment of Silence were observed.

Student Recognition – NECAP Science Awards – Kim Mercer, Superintendent of Schools and Assistant Superintendent, Sandra Forand congratulated and presented certificates to the following students who scored “Proficient with Distinction: Level 4 on the 2015

NECAP Science Test: Grade 4 students: Tyler Robinson, Waddington School, Madison Bento, Orlo Avenue School, Olivia Reid, Silver Spring School; and Grade 11 students East Providence High School: Nathaniel Costa, James Polana, Matthew D'Amico and Alexandra Morris.

Action Items

Selection of School Committee members for City Council and School Committee Sub-Committee

Mr. Tsonos stated that the City Council had appointed Timothy Conley and Helder Cunha; will hold a familiarization tour of high school; requested two School Committee members to participate in an informational and advisory capacity.

Discussion:

Mr. Monteiro spoke with the City Manager today regarding the purpose of the Sub-Committee and the City Manager was not aware that we had a Facilities Sub-Committee; Mr. Monteiro had concern about thin inefficiency; what we are doing; why not have them attend our Facilities Sub-Committee meeting to become better informed which he thought was the role of the Facilities Sub Committee to identify projects and funding for those projects.

Ms. Beauchaine – told everyone about the Facilities meeting and invited everyone to come to a public meeting; she is on record

explaining it at the joint School Committee and City Council meeting.

Mr. Monteiro –the City Manager said he did not remember that but discussion centered around the high school, so he thought that would be a good place to start.

Mr. Monteiro – it is the School Committee’s job to prioritize work and allocate money for it.

Mr. Tsonos– City Council not aware of what is going on in our buildings or some of the issues we have; chose the high school to familiarize themselves with issues at the high school; this sub-committee is strictly to provide information and maintain a dialogue.

Mr. Monteiro - why recreate the wheel; why can’t they attend our Facilities Sub-Committee meetings to be shared in that venue as well; we can invite them and provide the agenda.

Ms. Beauchaine – City Council tired of hearing about doors; use this meeting to start at the high school; if we have a rainy day fund to fix buildings in East Providence, which includes school, they want to start at the high school to make some headway; use rainy day money for emergencies; at Facilities Sub-Committee we will concentrate on that but need help funding projects.

Mr. Monteiro – why should the School Committee be spread so thin

Mr. Tsonos – the Facilities Subcommittee meetings focus on the on-going projects; the purpose of this subcommittee is to discuss and improve conditions of the School Department.

Ms. Beauchaine believes this would be worthy of the time and we should try it.

Mr. Monteiro – there is nothing for them address financially; we chose the priorities; this is just informational; the School Committee is not going to gain anything

Mr. Tsonos – unless we try, no way of knowing what may be gained from some communication and collaboration with the City Council.

Mr. Ferreira – agrees with Mr. Monteiro; if nominated, after one school, a report should be put together with guidelines and what we are going to do; he has never received reports from schools that the School Committee has walked through with no results; he would like to meet after doing a couple of schools to review; he has been making notes, taking pictures; does not know what the guidelines are.

Mr. Tsonos – The City Manager would compile a report based on the subcommittee report and send back to School Committee and City Council; if this is the only way they will visit, let them start there; something has to come of it.

Ms. Beauchaine – this is not the subcommittee for walk-throughs we are doing now?

Mr. Monteiro – report made to City Council on buildings and Fire Marshall report.

Motion by Mr. Monteiro to nominate Mr. Ferreira and Mr. Tsonos to the City Council and School Committee subcommittee on School Facilities, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Cahoon to table the next action item pending report from Mr. Vanner, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.

Student Liaison Report – William Vanner presented a report on high school events and activities.

Home School Requests – Motion to approve by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote 5-0.

Requisitions – Bill Lists – Linda Dykeman, Deputy Finance Director, presented the following warrants for payment:

Warrant #

1557 10/16/15 \$ 40,826.23

1558 10/16/15 \$ 732.49

1559 10/16/15 \$ 575.00

1560 10/19/15 \$ 225.00

1562 10/30/15 \$ 819,149.46

1564 11/5/15 \$1,362,600.09

1565 11/5/15 \$ 125,504.96

Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0.

1556 10/16/15 \$ 45,680.60 (Previously Approved)

Construction Payment Request \$ 316,887.28

Mr. Cahoon – only issue expressed by Mr. Ferreira at the Facilities Sub-Committee meeting: regarding doors and Invoice #7;

Linda Dykeman – check with SMMA and they said we did receive it; referred to a change order on the AIA document-Line #53 C/O 4 in the amount of \$3469.00 which shows up under Phase III as a deduction.

Mr. Ferreira – at four schools; soffits \$11,000; only two soffits are done and painted; Mr. Feola had no idea who did it; one at Orlo and one at RMS; 98% of work not done yet; how can we hold \$11,000?

Why \$11,200 for soffit work; two painted, worse four not touched yet; hold back \$11,000; Linda Dykeman will follow up on this.

Motion by Mr. Ferreira to hold back \$11,000 until we know who is responsible to do the soffits; seconded by Mr. Cahoon; pay \$206,556.25 Invoice 7 – E. W. Burman – minus \$11,000. Vote 5-0.

Mr. Cahoon noted no other issues with rest of the invoices:

Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve the following:

Invoice 43581 SMMA \$ 6,503.51

Invoice 43584 SMMA \$3,776.11

Invoice #14320 SBS \$1,436.00

Invoice #4 Duarte Corp. \$98,615.41

Seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0.

Awarding of Bid(s)

Fence at Hennessey School – Motion by Mr. Ferreira to award the bid

to Statewide Fence Builders, Inc. in the amount of \$8,900.00, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0.

Accounting Software – Linda Dykeman, Deputy Finance Director, requested approval of a proposal from Tyler Technologies for an Accounting H/R software package which will satisfy our H/R Department which is working with nothing at this time; hope to get all on board; may be able to share costs for training and travel with another community if they also implement this software;

Mr. Cahoon – if approved \$142,215; installation; maintenance first year \$47,739

(Tyler Technologies has worked with RIDE since 2008 to make sure supported)

Motion by Mr. Cahoon to approve, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0.

Personnel Appointment(s)

Fatima Avila-Principal, Martin Middle School-Effective 11/16/2015

Michael Almeida-Adaptive Physical Education Teacher-Martin Middle School

Effective 11/16/2015

Debbie November-Speech Pathologist-Effective 11/16/15-Location to be Determined

Motion to approve by Mr. Monteiro, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Cahoon to take short recess at 7:10PM, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0.

Interview of Final Candidates for Position of Superintendent of Schools:

7:30PM – Celeste Bowler

8:30 PM – Kathryn Crowley

Motion by Mr. Cahoon that the Committee convene in Executive Session for purposes of discussing:

Personnel – R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (1); Collective Bargaining R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (2); Litigation//Pending Litigation-R.I. Gen. Laws §42-46-5(a) (2), seconded by Mr. Ferreira. Vote 5-0.

School Committee returned to Public Session.

Report Executive Session Votes – Mr. Cahoon reported vote taken in executive session 5-0 to approve

Contracts of Administrative Assistant, Patricia A. Iannelli.

Motion by Mr. Cahoon to seal the minutes of the Executive Session, seconded by Ms. Beauchaine. Vote 5-0.

Motion by Mr. Cahoon that the School Committee meet on Monday, November 16, 2015 at 6:00PM in the East Providence High School Auditorium, seconded by Mr. Monteiro. Vote 5-0. Pending a successful appointment of Superintendent of Schools. Reception – Meet and greet to follow.

Motion by Mr. Monteiro to adjourn at 11:15PM, seconded by Mr. Cahoon. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia A. Iannelli, Administrative Assistant

Nathan Cahoon, Clerk of the Committee